

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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O R 261146Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3273

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 22497

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN, TH

SUBJECT: KOREAN RESOLUTION

1. AMBASSADOR SAW CHATCHAI AT HIS HOME THIS MORNING. HE OPENED CONVERSATION BY AGAIN STRESSING IMPORTANCE U.S. ATTACHED TO KOREAN QUESTION AND REVIEWED FAMILIAR ARGUMENTS.

2. IN DISCUSSION WHICH FOLLOWED WITH CHATCHAI, POLITICAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR-GENERAL KOSON AND DIRECTOR-GENERAL DESIGNATE FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS BIRA, THE THAI REITERATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION AND FIRMNESS ON PROCEDURAL VOTES. THE DISCUSSION THEN TURNED TO OTHER POSSIBLE VOTES AND CONTINGENCIES, WITH THE THAI EMPHASIZING THEIR DESIRE TO ALIGN THEMSELVES ON THESE SUBSEQUENT VOTES WITH THE ASEAN COUNTRIES. THEY STATED THAT IF PROCEDURAL VOTES WENT AGAINST FRIENDLY SIDE AND ACCORDED PRIORITY TO THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION, THIS WOULD INDICATE A LACK OF SUPPORT FOR THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, CONFIDENTIAL

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THAILAND WOULD ABSTAIN ON THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION IF IT

COMES TO A VOTE FIRST. IF, AS THEY HOPED, THE PROCEDURAL VOTES ACCORDED PRIORITY TO THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION THAILAND'S POSITION ON THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION WOULD BE DETERMINED AFTER FURTHER CONSULTATION WITH ASEAN STATES.

3. AMBASSADOR AGAIN ARGUED FOR VOTING AGAINST THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION POINTING OUT THAT WHILE THAI DESIRE TO STAY ALIGNED WITHIN ASEAN WAS UNDERSTANDABLE, THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO EACH COUNTRY WAS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT. THAILAND AND THE PHILIPPINES, LIKE SOUTH KOREA, HAD A MILITARY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES. FOR THESE COUNTRIES THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE RIGHT OF THE UNGA TO DEMAND THE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS WOULD BE AN INFRINGEMENT OF MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. AMBASSADOR ALSO ALLUDED TO THE STABILIZING EFFECT IN NORTH ASIA OF THE PRESENCE OF U.S. FORCES IN KOREA AS A FACTOR WHICH ALSO AFFECTED SOUTHEAST ASIA.

4. THE THAI CONCURRED IN THESE ARGUMENTS BUT WERE IMPOSSIBLE TO DRAW INTO A COMMITMENT FOR A VOTE AGAINST THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION AT THIS STAGE. CHATCHAI REPEATED THAT NO DECISION ON THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION COULD BE TAKEN UNTIL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES HAD BEEN HELD. HE SAID THAT BY TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, WHEN WE MEET AGAIN HE WILL HAVE HEARD FROM AMBASSADOR ANAN AND WE WOULD DISCUSS THE KOREAN QUESTION AGAIN. BY THEN HE EXPECTED TO HAVE HEARD FROM ANAN REGARDING THE STATE OF PLAY IN NEW YORK ON THE QUESTION OF HOW THE ASEAN COUNTRIES WILL VOTE ON THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION IF IT COMES UP AFTER THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION.

5. ON THE BASIS OF THE FOREGOING, I SEE NO PROSPECT OF PERSUADING KHUKRIT TO COMMIT THE RTG ANY FURTHER THAN IT IS NOW COMMITTED. IT APPEARS TO US THAT AFTER LAST NIGHT'S CONSULTATION WITH THE PRIME MINISTER THE MFA HAS KHUKRIT'S FULL SUPPORT FOR ITS POSITION AND THAT IT HAS THE AUTHORITY TO TAKE FUTURE DECISIONS ON THE BASIS OF DEVELOPMENTS IN NEW YORK. IT IS RELEVANT TO NOTE
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THAT CHATCHAI PLANS TO GO TO SEOUL IN MID-NOVEMBER AND IS MINDFUL OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE THAI VOTE TOMBF IIREGOING, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WILL BE AT THE IRANIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION TOMORROW AND I WILL, OF COURSE, SEIZE THIS OR ANY OTHER OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE THE KOREAN QUESTION WITH HIM.

7. THE LOOSE END WITH THE THAI IS THE VOTE ON THE
HOSTILE RESOLUTION IF IT COMES UP AFTER THE FRIENDLY
RESOLUTION. WE BELIEVE THE BEST COURSE TO FOLLOW IS
TO WORK ON CHATCHAI AND MFA AS THE SITUATION IN NEW
YORK UNFOLDS.
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